

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication terminal apparatus having a camera for transmitting a captured image to a communication terminal of a called party, and having a display for displaying an image received from the called party's communication terminal thereon such that it establishes a video communication with the called party, comprising:
 - a transmission/reception unit for performing data transmission/reception for the video communication;
 - a tracker for detecting a user's face area from an image captured by the camera;
 - an image extractor for extracting pixels of a predetermined range covering the user's face area detected by the tracker;
 - a distortion corrector for correcting a distortion of angle of view in the pixels extracted by the image extractor when the camera captures an image; and
 - a controller for determining whether a setup shot mode is set to a self-view mode for capturing the user, controlling the shot mode of the camera at the self-view mode when the setup shot mode is set to the self-view mode, and controlling the transmission/reception unit to transmit an image having no distortion of angle of view through the distortion corrector to the called party's communication terminal.
2. The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the tracker detects a center point of the user's face area extracted from the captured image of the camera, and the image extractor extracts predetermined pixels covering the user's face area on the basis of the center point of the user's face area, and constructs a screen image using only the extracted pixels.
3. The apparatus as set forth in claim 2, wherein the controller determines whether the user's face area detected by the tracker is in a prescribed allowable range, determines whether a user's face area corresponding to the pixels corrected by the distortion corrector is in a prescribed allowable range, and if at least one of the user's face area detected by the tracker is outside of the prescribed allowable range, and the user's face area corresponding to the pixels corrected by the distortion corrector is outside of the prescribed allowable range, the controller controls the transmission/reception unit to prevent the image having no distortion of angle of view from being transmitted.
4. The apparatus as set forth in claim 3, further comprising:

an alarm signal generator for generating an alarm signal recognizable to the user upon receiving a control signal from the controller,

5 wherein, if at least one of the user's face area detected by the tracker is outside of the prescribed allowable range, and the user's face area corresponding to the pixels corrected by the distortion corrector is outside of the prescribed allowable range, the controller controls the alarm signal generator to output the alarm signal.

5. The apparatus as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:

a display for displaying an image received at the transmission/reception unit;
and

10 a storage unit for storing the image displayed on the display according to a control signal of the controller.

6. A method for displaying a user's face area at the center of a display screen in a communication terminal apparatus with a camera for transmitting a captured image to a communication terminal of a called party, and displaying an image received from the
15 called party's communication terminal thereon to establish a video communication with the called party, said method comprising the steps of:

a) detecting the user's face area from an image captured by the camera;

b) selecting pixels of a predetermined range covering the detected user's face area;

20 c) correcting a distortion of angle of view in an image corresponding to the pixels covering the user's face area when the camera captures an image; and

d) transmitting an image having no distortion of angle of view to the called party's communication terminal.

7. The method as set forth in claim 6, further comprising the step of:

25 e) detecting a center point of the user's face area extracted from the captured image of the camera after performing the step (a),

wherein step (b) further includes the step of extracting predetermined pixels covering the user's face area on the basis of the center point of the user's face area.

8. The method as set forth in claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

30 f) determining whether the user's face area detected at step (a) is in a prescribed allowable range after performing step (c), determining whether the user's face area corresponding to the pixels corrected at step (c) is in a prescribed allowable range; and

g) if at least one of the user's face area is outside of the prescribed allowable range, and the user's face area corresponding to the pixels is outside of the prescribed allowable range, preventing the image having no distortion of angle of view from being transmitted to the called party's communication terminal.

5 9. The method as set forth in claim 8, further comprising the step of:

h) if at least one of the user's face area is outside of the prescribed allowable range at step (f), and an image area corresponding to the pixels covering the user's face area is outside of the prescribed allowable range, outputting an alarm signal recognizable to the user.

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